



# POLICY AND PROCEDURE

NO.400

## Use of Physical Force & Use of Deadly Force

Massachusetts Police Accreditation Commission Standards 1.1.1 & 1.1.2

Date Issued June 2, 2022	Date Effective November 1, 2025	Revision No. 12	No. of pages 16
Review Date: November 1, 2026			

### 1. PURPOSE:

The purpose of this policy is to guide members of the Worcester Police Department (Department) in the proper use of force, including less lethal force and deadly force, in accordance with the training set forth by the Massachusetts Municipal Police Training Committee (MPTC) and the policies and procedures of the Department.

### 2. POLICY:

It is the policy of the Department that an officer's force response be objectively reasonable and account for the officer's perception of the risk/threat presented by a subject as well as the officer's perception of the subject's action(s). Officer's Use of Force shall also take into consideration the Totality of the Circumstances surrounding the subject's actions and behaviors as well as the severity of the crime committed.

The use of force by members of the Department is a matter of critical concern to both the public and the law enforcement community. It is recognized that some individuals will not comply with the law or submit to control unless compelled to do so by using the appropriate level of force, therefore, officers will be called upon to use force in the performance of their duties.

The decision to use force requires careful attention to the facts and totality of the circumstances of each incident to include the severity of the crime, if the subject poses an immediate/imminent threat to the safety of the officer or others and, if the subject is actively resisting. Whenever tactically feasible, members of the Department shall use de-escalation tactics to prevent or reduce the need to use force.

### 3. TRAINING AND QUALIFICATIONS:

*According to MGL Part I, Title II, Chapter 6E, Section 14 & 15: Use of physical force and deadly force training shall be conducted initially at the student officer level and annually thereafter. Training will include techniques for proper and legal use of physical and deadly force. All officers shall participate in physical force and deadly force training. MPAC 1.1.1 & MPAC 1.1.2*

An officer shall carry only authorized tools. Authorized tools are those with which the officer has been trained and with which the officer has qualified in accordance with the standards established by the Department, POST, the MPTC, and all applicable state and federal laws.

Note: Trained qualified officers are the only personnel authorized to use less lethal systems beyond individual issued items. The decision to deploy these weapons will be based on the totality of the situation and the use of force guidelines (See “Use of Force Model” Sec 9). The officer has the right and an obligation to decline orders to deploy the system in an improper, illegal or in an excessively dangerous manner.

#### 4. DEFINITIONS:

- A. **Actively Resistant:** A subject’s non-compliance is increased in scope and or intensity. The subject’s non-compliance now includes energy enhanced physical or mechanical defiance.
- B. **Assaultive Subject (Bodily Harm):** An individual who attempts to injure an officer or another person or who engages in conduct that has the potential to injure an officer or another person. The assault could be taking place or perceived to be imminent.
- C. **Assaultive Subject (Serious Bodily Harm/Death):** An individual who engages in conduct that is likely to produce death or serious bodily harm to an officer or another person.
- D. **Chokehold (Prohibited):** The use of a lateral vascular neck restraint, carotid restraint or other action that involves the placement of any part of law enforcement officer's body on or around a person's neck in a manner that limits the person's breathing or blood flow with the intent of or with the result of causing bodily injury, unconsciousness, or death (MGL 6E §1). Chokeholds are strictly prohibited by statute, and the Department does not train its officers in the use of these techniques.
- E. **Compliant Subject:** A subject who submits to the officer’s authority and direction through either words or actions.
- F. **Critical Incident:** An incident during which an officer’s use of force tactic causes death or serious physical injury; an officer discharges a firearm during duty or off duty in an official capacity. The incident is a significant emotional event that breaks through an individual’s normal coping mechanisms and may cause extreme psychological distress.
- G. **Display:** The presentation of any tool with the intent to compel compliance from a subject and the subject is likely aware of the display and the officer’s intent.
- H. **Deadly Force:** *Physical* force that *can* reasonably *be expected* to cause death or

serious *physical* injury. **MPAC 1.1.2**

- I. **De-Escalation:** A process which results in a decrease in intensity or magnitude of a stressful and potentially violent encounter, the outcome of which reduces the possibility of increased officer use of force or subject injury.
- J. **De-escalation Tactics:** Proactive actions and approaches used by an officer to stabilize a law enforcement situation so that more time, options and resources are available to gain a person's voluntary compliance and to reduce or eliminate the need to use force including, but not limited to, verbal persuasion, warnings, slowing down the pace of an incident, waiting out a person, *creating distance between the officer and a threat*, and requesting additional resources to resolve the incident including, but not limited to, calling in medical or licensed mental health professionals, as defined in M.G.L. c. 111, § 51½(a), to address a potential medical or mental health crisis. **MPAC 1.1.1**
- K. **Distraction Technique:** In accordance with MPTC use of force training guidelines, a distraction technique is a very low-level technique that does not amount to a strike. Intent and intensity are key differences between distraction techniques and strikes. Distraction techniques are primarily used when an individual, who would classify as an Active Resistant Subject, has already begun some type of physical resistance. The use of a distraction technique that results in the ability to control and restrain a subject may allow officers to stay at a lower level of force. This could avoid escalating to a higher level of force and increasing the risk of injury occurring to the subject. Distraction techniques are not stand-alone tactics. They are designed and trained to be used in conjunction with or to facilitate other controlling or compliance techniques.
- L. **Feasible:** Reasonably capable of being done or carried out under the totality of the circumstances to successfully achieve the police action being undertaken, without increasing the risk to officers, innocent civilians, or subject.
- M. **Force:** The amount of physical effort required by an officer to compel compliance from a person. This includes any use of force by an officer occurring in an official law enforcement capacity whether on-duty or off-duty. Force may be necessary to compel, repel or restrain an unwilling subject.
- N. **Force Model:** Force options that are divided into five (5) levels to guide the officer during the use of force situation.
- O. **Imminent:** A threat is imminent when based on the totality of the circumstances, a reasonable officer in the same situation would believe that a person has the present ability, opportunity, and apparent intent to cause injury to an officer or others.

- P. **Involved Officers:** Unless otherwise indicated, refers to those sworn personnel in on-duty or off-duty status who discharge their firearm in an incident intentionally (not to include euthanizing an animal) or unintentionally; arrest or are in the process of arresting an individual who subsequently dies; engages in the use of force that results in serious bodily injury; or are present and participate in a critical incident in a meaningful degree. **Meaningful Degree** -The officer was able to view the action that caused the individual to have serious bodily injury; the officer was able to view the action that caused the individual to become deceased; or a supervisor determines that the officer was present and in significant proximity to the event that could break through an individual's normal coping mechanism that could in turn cause extreme psychological distress.
- Q. **Non-Deadly/Less-Lethal Force:** Force which is not intended to cause death or serious physical injury. However, it may have the potential to do so.
- R. **Objectively Reasonable:** The legal standard used to determine the lawfulness of a use of force grounded in the Fourth Amendment to the United States Constitution. See *Graham v. Connor*, 490 U.S. 386 (1989.) *Graham* states in part, "The reasonableness of a particular use of force must be judged from the perspective of a reasonable officer on the scene, rather than with 20/20 vision of hindsight. The calculus of reasonableness must embody allowance for the fact that police officers are often forced to make split second decisions in circumstances that are tense, uncertain, and rapidly evolving. The test of reasonableness is not capable of precise definition or mechanical application." Force must be reasonable under the totality of the circumstances known to or reasonably believed by the officer at the time force was used.
- S. **Passive Resistant:** An individual who is uncooperative/non-compliant but does not use physical strength, body movement or energy-based resistance against officers.
- T. **Perceived Circumstances:** Are the reasonable officer's perspective of the severity of any crime, the existence of all safety threats to the officer or others, and the degree of compliance and/or non-compliance from the subject at the time of the encounter.
- U. **Perceived Subject Action:** The subject's actions as perceived objectively by the reasonable officer, and which indicate the subject to be at one or more of the Use of Force Model's compliant and/or non-compliant categories.
- V. **Personal Weapons:** A part of the human body that is used as an instrument to strike.
- W. **Serious Bodily Injury:** *Bodily injury that results in: (i) permanent disfigurement; (ii) protracted loss or impairment of a bodily function, limb, or organ; or (iii) a substantial risk of death.* **MPAC 1.1.2**
- X. **Strike:** To impact forcefully and suddenly utilizing approved tools, personal

weapons, or tools of immediate means or opportunity.

- Y. Tools of Immediate Means or Opportunity:** In the event an officer is faced with a situation where there is a substantial/imminent risk of physical injury or death to themselves or another, and access to approved tools and weapons are not available or tactically feasible, they may resort to using a tool of immediate means or opportunity (See Section 9, “Use of Force Model,” Level Four, Below).

## **5. DE-ESCALATION:**

*According to MGL Part I, Title II, Chapter 6E, Section 14:* De-Escalation training shall be conducted initially at the student officer level and annually thereafter. All officers shall participate in De-Escalation training. Officers shall be instructed on; related definitions, including a working definition of De-Escalation, appropriate verbal and non-verbal techniques to De-Escalate subject behavior, apply the principles of time, distance and cover as they relate to de-escalation, and properly document in detail the subject’s behavior and attempts to De-Escalate the subject’s behavior. **MPAC 1.1.1**

## **6. USE OF NON-DEADLY FORCE:**

Officers shall not use physical force upon another unless: De-Escalation tactics have been attempted and failed or De-Escalation tactics are not feasible based on the Totality of the Circumstances.

- A. An officer may use that level of non-deadly force that is objectively reasonable to bring an incident and/or subject under control.
- B. An officer is authorized to use non-deadly force to:
  - 1. Affect a lawful arrest or detention.
  - 2. Protect the officer or another person(s) from physical harm,
  - 3. Restrain or subdue a resistant subject, and prevent escape,
  - 4. To bring an unlawful situation safely and effectively under control.

## **7. USE OF DEADLY FORCE:**

Officers shall not use deadly force upon a person unless: De-Escalation tactics have been attempted and failed or are not feasible based on the Totality of the Circumstances, and such force is necessary to prevent imminent serious bodily harm/death to a person. The amount of force used must be proportionate to the threat of serious bodily harm/death.

It should be noted that Deadly Force is not “tool” or weapon specific. An officer who is faced with the imminent risk of serious bodily harm or death may not have the opportunity to utilize an approved department issued force option and as such may be required to deploy a tool or technique which does not fall within department issued options.

**An officer is authorized to use Deadly Force to:**

1. Protect the officer and/or another person(s) from an unlawful attack, which the officer reasonably perceives as an imminent threat of death or serious physical injury. Under no circumstances may Deadly Force be used for the sole purpose of protecting or preserving property.
2. Fleeing Felon: Can only use deadly force if the officer is presented with a deadly threat to themselves or another. Whenever it is both practical and reasonable, a clear warning to the fleeing felon is required prior to the use of deadly force. Deadly force may never be used to stop or apprehend a fleeing misdemeanor (*Tennessee v. Garner*).
3. Render harmless an animal which presents a clear and immediate danger of death or serious injury to a human being, or an animal which is so severely injured that humanity requires its removal from further suffering.

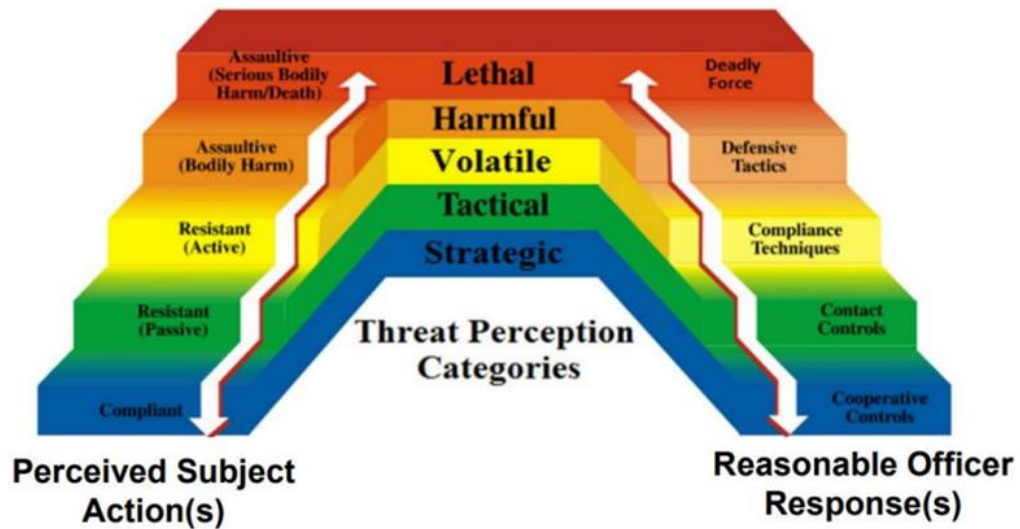
**8. PROGRESSION OF FORCE:**

The officer's response options within each of the five force levels identified in the Use of Force Model (See Section 9) are not necessarily listed in the order of use and/or need. The officer may de-escalate, stabilize or escalate their response based upon their risk assessment and their perception of the subject's degree of compliance or non-compliance.

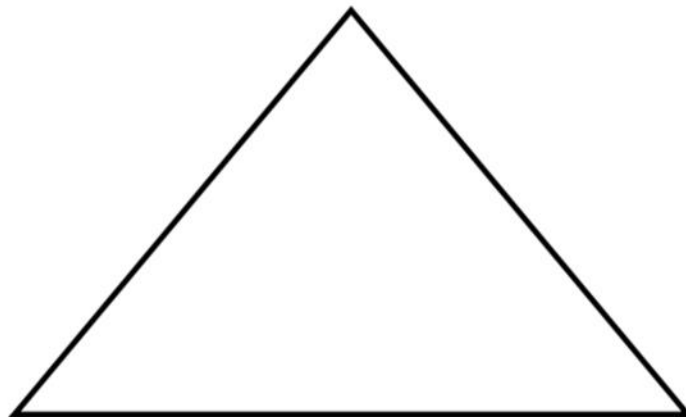
The force tactics listed in each of the five force levels identified in the Use of Force Model are those tactics that officers are trained in. The Department recognizes that there are other methods and tactics that can be used at each of the levels of authority. If a tactic is used that is not listed, it must be objectively reasonable as it relates to the officer's perception and the subject's action.

## 9. USE OF FORCE MODEL:

### MPTC USE OF FORCE MODEL ©



### Perceived Circumstance



Perceived Subject Action(s)

Reasonable Officer(s) Response

### **Level One: The Compliant Subject:**

1. The perceived subject actions: The officer perceives the subject's actions as cooperative and control is maintained via public acceptance, officer presence, verbalization skills, etc.
2. The perceived circumstances are strategic: The officer must maintain a minimum level of awareness and preparedness to enhance the overall and ongoing status of officer safety anytime they're working.
3. The reasonable officer responses are cooperative controls: The cooperative controls would include, but not be limited to those force tactics listed below.

<b>Cooperative Controls (Compliant Subjects)</b>	
<b>Police Strategy</b>	<b>Police Tactics</b>
Officer Presence:	Appearance
Approach Techniques:	Dialogue, Verbal Commands
Frisk Techniques:	Confrontation Equation Relative Positioning Contact/Cover Officer Tactics
Searching Techniques:	1 Officer on 1 Subject 2 Officers on 1 Subject
Restraining Techniques:	Handcuffing Flex-Cuffs Leg Restraints 1 Officer on 1 Subject 2 Officers on 1 Subject
Transporting Techniques:	Two Officer Unit One Officer Unit Patrol Wagon

### **Level Two: The Resistant (Passive) Subject:**

1. The perceived subject actions: This is the preliminary level of subject non-compliance. The subject offers no physical or mechanical energy enhancement toward the resistant effort. The subject has not directed their physical strength and/or maintaining a posture of resistance. Rather, the subject merely fails to respond to any of the cooperative controls listed in the previous section.
2. The perceived circumstances are tactical: The officer perceives an increase in the threat potential within the confrontational environment, which would initiate the process where specific tactics and procedures would now be deployed.
3. The reasonable officer responses are contact techniques: The contact controls would include, but not be limited to those force tactics listed below.

<b>Contact Controls (Passive Resistant Subjects)</b>	
<b>Police Strategy</b>	<b>Police Tactics</b>
Restraint Techniques:	Elbow Grasp
Contact Controls:	Escort Position Handcuffing Control Position



### **Level Three: The Resistant (Active) Subject:**

1. The perceived subject actions: The subject's non-compliance has increased in scope and intensity and now includes energy enhanced physical or mechanical defiance. The individual has directed their physical strength and energy in establishing, achieving and/or maintaining a posture of resistance.
2. The perceived circumstances are volatile: The officer is now confronted with the presence and/or potential of an increase in the threat intensity, severity, etc. The officer recognizes the increase in the threat potential and must deploy techniques and tactics that would overcome and/or control this increased risk.
3. The reasonable officer responses are compliance techniques: These compliance techniques would include, but not be limited to those force tactics listed below.

<b>Compliance Techniques (Active Resistant Subjects)</b>	
<b>Police Strategy</b>	<b>Police Tactics</b>
Compliance Techniques:	<div>Front Wrist Lock</div> <div>Bent Wrist Lock</div> <div>Finger Grasp</div> <div>Take Down</div> <div>Rear Wrist Lock</div> <div>Pressure Points</div> <div>Arm Bar</div>
Baton Control Techniques:	<div>Strong Side Arm Lock</div> <div>Support Side Arm Lock</div> <div>Strong Side Wrist Drag</div> <div>Support Side Wrist Drag</div>
Distraction Techniques: <i>*Only to be used in conjunction with approved Compliance/Control Techniques.</i>	<div>Triceps Pinch</div> <div>Side of Thigh</div> <div>Radial Nerve</div> <div>Shin</div> <div>Median Nerve</div> <div>Top of Foot</div> <div>Hip Push</div>
Non-Chemical Agents:	<div>Oleoresin Capsicum (O.C.) Spray</div> <div>Pepperball Saturation Techniques (Certification Required)</div> <div>O.C. Munitions (Certification Required)</div> <div>ECW Sparks Display/ECW Drive Stun Mode/ (Certification Required)</div>

### **Level Four: The Assaultive (Bodily Harm) Subject:**

1. The perceived subject actions: The officer's attempt to gain lawful compliance concluded in a perceived or actual attack on the officer or another person(s). The officer makes the reasonable assessment that such actions by the subject would result in his/her or another's bodily harm.
2. The perceived circumstances are harmful: The officer perceives an accelerated assessment of danger. This situation has reached the degree where the physical wellbeing of the officer or another person is in jeopardy if the subject is not stopped and controlled.
3. The reasonable officer responses are defensive tactics: These defensive tactics would include, but not be limited to those tactics listed below.

Defensive Tactics (Assaultive Bodily Harm Subjects)	
Police Strategy	Police Tactics
Impact Weapon Techniques:	Expandable Straight Baton Less Lethal Shotgun (Certification required) 40 mm Launcher (Certification required) ECW Probe Deployment (Certification required) K-9 Tools of Immediate Means or Opportunity (See Section 6 Above, "Use Of Non-Deadly Force")
Assault Defenses:	Personal Weapons: Head Hands i.e., Punches, Palm Heel Strikes, Edged Fist Strikes Elbows Knees Feet
Non-Chemical Agents:	Pepperball Impact Technique (Certification required) 40 mm Launcher (Certification required)

**Level Five: The Assaultive (Serious Bodily Harm, Death) Subject:**

1. The perceived subject actions: The officer is now confronted by an assaultive act that reaches the ultimate degree of danger. The officer perceives that if these actions are followed through with, that the officer or others would be subject to death or serious physical harm.
2. The perceived circumstances are lethal: The officer perceives the highest degree of threat towards his/her or another's safety. The officer's reasonable assessment would be that if this situation were allowed to continue that they or another could be seriously injured or killed. A maximized system of defense must be initiated.
3. The reasonable officer responses are deadly force: These Deadly Force tactics would include, but not be limited to those force tactics listed below.

Deadly Force: Assaultive (Serious Bodily Harm, Death) Subject	
Police Strategy	Police Tactics
Service Weapons:	Department Issued Handgun Department Authorized Special Weapons Tools of Immediate Means or Opportunity

## **10. DUTY TO PROVIDE MEDICAL AID:**

After any level of force is used, the officer involved or any officer aware of a visible injury, complaint of injury, signs of medical distress, or when medical attention is requested by any person, shall immediately evaluate the need for medical attention, render aid consistent with their training, and activate the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) system as soon as the situation safely allows.

When it is the officer's belief that an individual in custody has swallowed a controlled substance EMS shall be requested. The individual shall be monitored until relieved by EMS. If the individual is not under arrest, he/she should be encouraged to be evaluated by EMS.

## **11. CHOKEHOLDS PROHIBITED:**

Chokeholds and/or neck restraints are strictly prohibited by statute and the Department does not train its officers in the use of these techniques. MPAC 1.1.2

Chokeholds are defined as the use of a lateral vascular neck restraints, carotid restraints or other actions that involve the placement of any part of law enforcement officer's body on or around a person's neck in a manner that limits the person's breathing or blood flow with the intent of or with the result of causing bodily injury, unconsciousness or death are strictly prohibited. MPAC 1.1.2

In addition, officers are prohibited from utilizing restraint techniques that include compressing or squeezing the nose, trachea, windpipe, or throat area to stop a subject from ingesting what is believed to be a controlled substance. If an individual has already placed what is believed to be a controlled substance in their mouth, force should not be used to remove said substance. Force in accordance with the Use of Force Model may still be used to affect the arrest.

## **12. FLEEING MOTOR VEHICLES**

The discharge of a firearm into a fleeing motor vehicle is strictly prohibited. MPAC 1.1.2

## **13. REPORTING USE OF FORCE INCIDENTS:**

### **A. Any Official Police Interaction:**

Whenever a sworn member of this department uses force in the performance of his or her duties, whether that involved an actual arrest or not, and that force is at a Level Three or higher (See Section 9, Use of Force Model), an incident report containing a detailing of that force shall be entered into the records management system (RMS). The display of any authorized police tool, will constitute a "use of force" and as such, must be reported. As with all reports entered into the RMS system, the report shall be signed by the officer and reviewed and signed by a police supervisor.

**B. Initial Verbal Report to Supervisor:**

Whenever a sworn member of this department has a display of force or a use of force at level three or higher, in the performance of their duties, a verbal report of the incident shall be made to the officer's supervisor once the scene is safe and before clearing the location.

Additionally, a verbal report of any injury to an individual taken into custody that was caused by a use of force shall be made to the officer's supervisor once the scene is safe and before clearing the location.

**C. Written Reporting:**

Pursuant to paragraphs A and B above, reports of the use of force must be entered into the RMS under the incident number as an arrest or supplementary report.

All use of force reports shall be reviewed, signed, and submitted prior to the end of the officer's tour of duty absent extenuating circumstances. Those extenuating circumstances shall be brought to the attention of the immediate supervisor who will inform the officer's commander.

Pursuant to paragraphs A and B above, where the level of force is perceived to be lethal in nature, reports by involved officers shall be submitted to and reviewed by a police supervisor no later than 72 hours after the incident occurred unless medical reasons or other extenuating circumstances exist. Those extenuating circumstances shall be brought to the attention of the commander who shall submit a written report to the Chief of Police delineating the extenuating circumstances.

Supervisors notified of any display of force or a use of force incident relative to force levels three or higher, are to generate a use of force notification email indicating the incident number, the type of force used, and the officer(s) that used force. This email shall be forwarded to the following:

- Commanding Officer
- Appropriate Deputy Chief
- Bureau of Professional Standards
- Training Division

**D. Body Worn Camera Report Writing**

To help ensure accuracy and consistency, BWC officers may review the BWC recording prior to preparing reports in all cases EXCEPT when officers used force, not a display, at Levels four or five of the Use of Force Model. In those cases, the BWC officer is required to write their initial report first and then review their recording (See Policy 403, Body Worn Cameras, Section 2, and Section 4).

The supervisor responsible for signing officers' reports shall review BWC recordings when an officer has any display of force or utilizes a level of force classified as level three or higher. The precinct/unit commander or their designee (the designee cannot be

the reviewing sergeant) will review every use of force incident (videos and reports) that are classified as level four or higher.

### 13. DUTY TO INTERVENE/DUTY TO REPORT

M.G.L. *Part I, Title II*, Ch. 6E, § 15 Duty to Intervene/ Duty to Report

(a) An officer *witnessing* another officer using physical force, including deadly force, beyond that which is necessary or objectively reasonable based on the totality of the circumstances, shall intervene to prevent the use of unreasonable force unless intervening would result in imminent harm to the officer or another identifiable individual. **MPAC 1.1.1 & MPAC 1.1.2**

(b) An officer who observes another officer using physical force, including deadly force, beyond that which is necessary or objectively reasonable based on the totality of the circumstances shall report the incident. **MPAC 1.1.1 & MPAC 1.1.2**

#### **Duty to Intervene Procedure:**

- A. The officer who observes another officer using physical force, as described in section 13 above, shall immediately make a verbal notification to *a* supervisor once the scene is safe and before clearing the scene. The officer will submit a *detailed, written statement to that supervisor, describing the incident, as soon as possible*, but no later than the end of the *witnessing* officer's shift. **MPAC 1.1.1 & MPAC 1.1.2**
- B. *The witnessing officer shall notify a supervisor not directly involved in the use of physical force or deadly force.* **MPAC 1.1.1 & MPAC 1.1.2** The supervisor will then submit a report through their chain of command to the officer's commanding officer as soon as reasonably possible but no later than the end of the supervisor's shift. The supervisor's report shall list all persons present that may have witnessed visually or audibly the incident involving the use of force. After the report has been reviewed by the officer's commanding officer, the commanding officer shall notify the appropriate deputy chief and the Bureau of Professional Standards (BOPS) through department email. When administrative action is deemed necessary, BOPS shall perform an investigation into the use of force. Whenever it becomes apparent that the investigation involves the bona fide possibility of one or more criminal charges being filed against an employee, a separate, parallel investigation will be initiated and conducted under the command of the Deputy Chief of the Investigative Bureau. **MPAC 1.1.2**
- C. *All law enforcement personnel should be free from the fear of retaliation as well as any actual retaliation. Any law enforcement personnel who have reported abuse and are put in fear of retaliation or believe they are the target of retaliation will utilize procedures outlined in WPD Policy #206 Duty to Intervene/ Anti- Retaliatory Protections.* **MPAC 1.1.1 & MPAC 1.1.2**

#### **14. OFFICER MEDICAL EVALUATIONS:**

After an officer's deployment of lethal/deadly force or when serious physical injury occurs protocols under Policy No. 501, Officer Involved Shootings, In-Custody Deaths, and Serious Uses of Force, shall be followed. Said officer shall be sent to a medical facility for evaluation.

In instances where a member of law enforcement causes or incurs serious physical injury or death, other involved officers may be required by a supervisor to be evaluated by EMS or be sent to a medical facility forthwith for medical evaluation. The officers may not opt out of this medical evaluation except directly by professional medical staff at the medical facility.

#### **15. DEBRIEFING MEETING AFTER CRITICAL INCIDENT:**

Debriefing meeting will take place when the following occurs:

- An officer meets the criteria defined in Section 4F, Critical Incident;
- An officer discharges a firearm during duty (or off-duty in an official capacity) except when the firearm is used on an animal;
- A commander requests to review an incident.

The following personnel will be notified to attend:

- Chief of Police or his designee
- Deputy Chiefs or command staff designated by the Chief of Police
- Involved Officer(s) Commander
- Professional Standards for policy review
- Detective Bureau Official (if applicable)
- Training Division Official
- Department Use of Force Instructor

Per:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul B. Saucier". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Paul B. Saucier  
Chief of Police

## Amendments:

April 13, 2007: Policy # 400 Use of Force, September 1, 1993 was revised.

- May 6, 2008: “Injured prisoner IDC report” wording added to section XI, Medical Aid, and Revised
- October 30, 2008: Use-of-Force/Training division review added.
- September 13, 2010: “Brachial Stun” added to section IV “Definitions” and section VIII “Use of Force Model”, Level Four.
- October 2011: Section XI revised.
- October 12, 2014: reporting Use of Force Procedures Revised, Written Reports Mode of Reporting Revised, and Officer Medical Evaluation added.
- August 31, 2015: Section 10 (c) added: Personal Weapons, i.e. hands, feet, head, etc.
- July 05, 2018: 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph in Section 9 concerning restraint techniques that include compressing or squeezing the nose, trachea, windpipe, or throat added.
- August 10, 2018: “Force in accordance with the Use of Force Model may still be used to affect the arrest.”
- July 9, 2021:

Amended “Purpose” section.

Amended “Policy” section.

Amended “Force” under Definition Section.

Amended “Objectively Reasonable” under Definition Section.

Removed “Brachial Stun”

Added letters “J-U” under Definition Section.

Added “De-Escalation” section.

Amended “Use of Non-Deadly Force” section.

Amended “Use of Deadly Force” section.

Added “i.e., punches, palm heel strikes, edged fist strikes” next to Assault Defenses under Level Four: The Assaultive (Bodily Harm) Subject Section.

Amended “Personal Weapons” under Initial Verbal Report to Supervisor Section.

Added Section 9 Level 3 “MPTC distraction techniques that require strikes are prohibited at Level Three”.

Added Section 10 Subsection C. verbal report for injury.

Amended Section 11 Subsection D, Written Reporting

Amended “Officer Medical Evaluations” Section

- June 2, 2022:

Added Tool of Immediate Means or Opportunity definition

Added Section 11, Subsection C, “K9”

Amended Section 11, Subsection E procedure

Amended Section 11, Subsection F, 2 “Sub” removed from Sub-Committee

Amended Section 13, Subsection A

November 2025: MPAC Accreditation Standard 1.1.1 & 1.1.2 added in italic font